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Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 6
Legal affairs

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* A/61/50 and Corr.1.

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Overall orientation

6.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to support the accomplishment of the objectives of the United Nations by providing advice to the principal and subsidiary organs of the Organization and by promoting a better understanding by Member States of and respect for the principles and norms of international law.

6.2 The mandate for the programme derives from the principal decision-making organs of the Organization in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

6.3 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Office of Legal Affairs. It provides a unified central legal service for the Secretariat and the principal and other organs of the United Nations, supports the development of international justice, contributes to the progressive development and codification of international public and trade law, strengthening and developing the international legal order for the seas and oceans, registers and publishes treaties and performs the depositary functions of the Secretary-General.

6.4 The Office will provide legal advice and services to the decision-making organs of the United Nations and its Member States. It will aim to strengthen respect within the United Nations for the rule of law in international relations, in particular, observance of the Charter and the resolutions, decisions, regulations, rules and treaties emanating from the Organization. Achievement of gender equality will also be addressed in the advice provided by the Office and in its activities, as appropriate.

Subprogramme 1
Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services to the United Nations as a whole

Objective of the Organization: To assist the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations in enhancing respect for the rule of law and supporting the development of international justice.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
Provision of qualitative and timely legal advice, thus facilitating the functioning of the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations in accordance with international law, including the United Nations legal regime	(a) Satisfaction with the clarity and accuracy of the advice provided by the Office of Legal Affairs (b) Legal instruments are finalized in respect of the activities of the United Nations

Strategy

6.5 The subprogramme is implemented by the Office of the Legal Counsel. The Office will assist the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations through the qualitative and timely provision of legal advice, the preparation of reports and analyses and its participation in meetings. This covers questions relating to international peace and security and includes advice on the interpretation of the Charter, resolutions, rules and regulations of the United Nations, treaties and

questions involving the use of force, sanctions, investigations, commissions of inquiry, expert groups, privileges and immunities, relations with host countries and third-party liability. Legal advice will be provided on questions related to public international law, including legal disputes, human rights, humanitarian law and international criminal law, including formulation of statements of a legal nature for the Secretary-General. Legal advice will also be provided to treaty bodies institutionally linked to the United Nations, at their request. Advice will be provided on constitutional, credentials and membership issues, as well as on the interpretation and application of rules of procedure of principal and subsidiary organs. The Office will also assist the Secretary-General in complying with his statutory responsibilities with regard to the International Court of Justice. As required, the Office will represent the Secretary-General at meetings and conferences. Through continued ongoing contacts with legal offices throughout the United Nations system, the Office will seek to ensure that legal advice within the system is provided in a coordinated manner. It will work closely with the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations to ensure that the advice is clear, accurate and effective and will engage in necessary follow-up to support the implementation of any resulting policy decisions.

6.6 Legal advice and services will be provided for the Organization's peacekeeping operations through the preparation of agreements governing the status and the privileges, immunities, facilities and exemptions of those operations, including status-of-forces and status-of-mission agreements. Assistance and advice will also be provided in the preparation of instruments required for the proper and lawful functioning of those operations, including rules of engagement, standard operating procedures and directives. In the case of operations with legislative and executive mandates, assistance and advice will additionally be provided in the preparation of legislative instruments. Assistance for peacemaking efforts will include advice to support negotiations and the preparation of legal instruments.

6.7 A further objective of the subprogramme is to support the development of international justice and an end to impunity through help to existing international and internationally assisted tribunals. To that end, the Office will work to ensure that, as subsidiary organs of the Security Council, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda operate in accordance with the Charter, regulations, rules and policies of the United Nations and, as judicial organs, act within their statutes. Within the framework of the subprogramme, the Office will advise the principal and subsidiary organs of the Organization on legal aspects of the activities of the above-mentioned tribunals and on matters arising in their relations with those tribunals. It will also advise the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda regarding their relationships with States and host countries. The Office will advise the principal and subsidiary organs regarding the Negotiated Relationship Agreement between the International Criminal Court and the United Nations. Another objective will be to ensure that assistance provided by the Organization and Member States to the Special Court for Sierra Leone is in keeping with the Agreement concluded between the Government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations on the Establishment of the Court and to participate in the activities of the Management Committee of the Court. It will also be an objective of the subprogramme to help ensure that assistance provided by the Organization towards the establishment and operation of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of

Cambodia conforms with the Charter, the regulations, rules and policies of the United Nations and the Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Cambodia regarding the Extraordinary Chambers, and to monitor the operation of the Chambers in order to ensure that they function in accordance with the terms of that Agreement. The Office will assist in the establishment of other tribunals, as mandated, and help to develop transitional justice mechanisms as, for example, in Burundi.

6.8 The Office will continue to carry out secretariat and representational functions for organs and bodies falling within its competence, including the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly, the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and, as appropriate, ad hoc working groups of the Security Council and the Sixth Committee.

Subprogramme 2
General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes

Objective of the Organization: To protect the legal interests of the Organization.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Maximization of the protection of the legal interests of the Organization	(a) The absence of instances in which, unless waived, the status and privileges and immunities of the Organization are not maintained
(b) Minimization of the legal liabilities of the Organization	(b) The total amount of the Organization's legal liability is minimized compared with the total amount of claims filed against the Organization

Strategy

6.9 The subprogramme is implemented by the General Legal Division. Legal services and support will be provided to assist all parts of the Organization, including offices located away from Headquarters, in the day-to-day administration of their mandates and programmes. These involve: (a) participation in meetings of Secretariat bodies, such as the Committee on Contracts, the Staff Management Coordination Committee, the Property Survey Board and the Claims Board; and (b) the provision of advice on the interpretation of certain Articles of the Charter, General Assembly resolutions and decisions, the regulations, rules and mandates of programmes and activities in which United Nations organs and bodies are engaged and the interpretation of other administrative issuances of the Secretariat.

6.10 Legal services and support will also be provided: (a) for the peacekeeping operations of the Organization in contracting for air, land and sea transportation, rations, logistical support, personnel and equipment; the resolution of related disputes; and claims against the Organization resulting from such operations; (b) for the Organization's expanded contracting requirements and the reform of procurement; (c) to funds and programmes for the establishment of programmes of

cooperation for development, as well as for the development of new institutional modalities for operational activities and initiatives to counter epidemics and other hazards; (d) for assisting in the prosecution and punishment of staff members and others who engage in theft, corruption or other fraudulent activities against the Organization and for recovery of assets; and (e) for the development of new modalities for cooperating with outside entities in achieving the objectives of the Organization.

6.11 Furthermore, legal services will be provided for matters related to the regulations, rules and other administrative issuances of the Organization and revisions to the personnel appraisal system. The General Legal Division will represent the Secretary-General before the Administrative Tribunal and represent the Organization before other judicial and arbitral bodies.

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate the progressive development and codification of international law.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Progress in the formulation of legal instruments	(a) (i) The level of progress achieved on instruments under preparation
	(ii) The satisfaction of Member States with the quality of parliamentary documentation and background materials
(b) Wider appreciation and understanding of international law	(b) (i) The satisfaction of participants with the quality of courses and seminars
	(ii) The satisfaction of end-users with the quality of publications issued and information electronically disseminated

Strategy

6.12 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of the subprogramme is vested in the Codification Division. The types of activities to be undertaken will include research on topics of international law, compilation of background documents, preparation of draft reports of a substantive nature for the bodies concerned, legal advice and assistance in the conduct of proceedings and in the drafting of legal instruments, resolutions and decisions.

6.13 Substantive support will be provided to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly in its consideration of the status of relevant instruments, measures aimed at enhancing the accession of States to those instruments or, as the case may be, use by States of the procedures envisaged by the relevant resolutions of the Assembly. Substantive support will also be provided to special and ad hoc committees and

working groups of the Sixth Committee, as well as to the International Law Commission.

6.14 The United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law will be implemented through: (a) the preparation and issuance of legal publications, such as the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*, the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, the *United Nations Legislative Series* and the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*, proceedings of codification conferences, *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions* and *Orders of the International Court of Justice*, as well as ad hoc publications on public international law; (b) the designing of curriculums and organization of courses and seminars on various subjects of international law; and (c) continuous updating of the websites of the Sixth Committee and the International Law Commission, and of the codification of international law, in conformity with existing mandates. Assistance in the form of fellowships, seminars and access to the United Nations legal publications will be provided, in particular, to developing countries.

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen the rule of law for the oceans.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased capacity of Member States and intergovernmental organizations for the uniform and consistent application of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related agreements	(a) (i) Increased number of States parties able to implement their obligations under the Convention and related agreements (ii) Increased participation of States in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related agreements
(b) Increased opportunities for States to derive benefits from the oceans and seas in conformity with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related agreements	(b) (i) Increased number of submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (ii) The expeditious examination of submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf by increased utilization of technical facilities provided by the Division (iii) Increased number of activities aimed at improving the sustainable development of the oceans and seas (iv) Increased cooperation relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources and, in particular, biodiversity, in areas beyond national jurisdiction

(c) Increased cooperation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea	(c) (i) Increased number of substantive contributions made by intergovernmental organizations to the Secretary-General's annual reports to the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea, including special reports (ii) Increased active participation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea and other relevant processes
(d) Increased cooperation between intergovernmental organizations and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in the coordination on oceans-related issues	(d) Increased activities carried out jointly between the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea and other relevant organizations, including requests for assistance

Strategy

6.15 The subprogramme is implemented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

6.16 The Division will provide information, analysis and advice on the Convention on the Law of the Sea and the implementing agreements, their status and State practice relating thereto. Assistance will be provided to States and international organizations (including regional organizations) in the development of legal instruments in the field of the law of the sea and ocean affairs, in harmony with the provisions of the Convention and its implementing agreements.

6.17 Developing States, through the Division's Capacity-building Unit, will also be assisted in developing and strengthening their capabilities, including institutional infrastructure, as well as human, technical and financial resources, for exercising their rights to the fullest degree and fulfilling their obligations in the most cost-effective manner.

6.18 The Division will provide assistance for the effective functioning of the institutions established under the Convention and will service the meetings of the States parties. In particular, it will provide both administrative and technical support to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in its consideration of submissions by States for delineation of the outer limits of their continental shelves. The Division will also provide any necessary assistance to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the International Seabed Authority. Moreover, upon request, it will assist States in the settlement of disputes through other mechanisms contained in the Convention.

6.19 Member States will be assisted in identifying emerging aspects of marine affairs within the framework of the Convention and the programme of action. This assistance will entail analysing areas requiring action, organizing groups of experts for the purpose of formulating appropriate responses to emerging needs and

servicing multilateral consultations and negotiations, so as to contribute to the progressive development and codification of international law.

6.20 The annual consideration, review and evaluation by the General Assembly of continuing developments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs will be undertaken through the provision of information, analysis and reports and the servicing of the informal consultations to elaborate the Assembly resolutions on oceans and the law of the sea and on sustainable fisheries, as well as the Open-ended Informal Consultative Process established by the Assembly to carry out oversight of oceans and law of the sea matters with an integrated and coordinated approach.

6.21 The Division will also continue to prepare reports in order to provide information for and to service meetings relating to sustainable fisheries, the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity, and any other processes that may be established by the General Assembly.

6.22 The Division will continue to participate actively in relevant meetings of United Nations and non-United Nations bodies dealing with oceans-related issues and the mechanisms of cooperation and coordination relating to oceans, in particular UN-Oceans and its subsidiary bodies.

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate and encourage the progressive improvement, harmonization, understanding, knowledge and application of international trade law and coordination of the work of international organizations active in that field.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Contributions to the modernization of trade law and practices and reduction of legal uncertainties and obstacles posed by inadequate and disparate laws	(a) (i) Increased number of legislative decisions (ratifications and national enactments) based on United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) texts (ii) Increased number of judicial decisions based on UNCITRAL texts
(b) Contributions to increased understanding of international trade law issues and reliance on UNCITRAL standards	(b) (i) Increased number of publications or databases referring to the work and mentioning texts of UNCITRAL (ii) Increased number of page views on the UNCITRAL website
(c) Improved coordination and cooperation among international organizations active in the field of international trade law	(c) Increased number of joint activities that incorporate reference to UNCITRAL trade law standards

Strategy

6.23 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the International Trade Law Division.

6.24 The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, codification conferences and related intergovernmental working groups will be provided with substantive support. The services provided will include research on international trade law and preparation of studies and policy papers, legal advice and assistance in the conduct of intergovernmental negotiations and in the drafting of decisions, amendments and proposals.

6.25 The International Trade Law Division will assist the Commission in drafting for Governments modern and universally acceptable legislative and non-legislative texts (treaties, model laws, legislative guides and recommendations) in areas where the Commission determines that the modernization or harmonization of commercial law is desirable and feasible.

6.26 In view of the growing need for commercial law reform in the various areas in which the Commission has prepared harmonized standards, and the related increased demand for legislative technical assistance, in particular in developing countries and countries in transition, the Division will pay considerable attention to developing and carrying out programmes for legislative technical assistance and training. Such assistance will be based on requests from regional organizations and individual countries and will be provided in the form of briefings to officials, training and direct assistance in the drafting of instruments enacting uniform law texts, supported by commentaries, guides to enactment and information notes prepared by the Division. Professional associations and academic institutions, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, will be assisted in promoting modern business practices and the teaching of international trade law.

6.27 Cooperation will be undertaken with regional organizations to foster regional harmonization on the basis of universal texts of the Commission. The Division will provide models for use by intergovernmental organizations when they prepare legislative texts or assist their member States in modernizing trade legislation. Furthermore, the Division will draft models for use by international and national organizations when they prepare standard texts for use by their members. Attention will also be given to issues arising from the increasing importance of electronic commerce in international trade.

6.28 Bearing in mind the fact that an increasing number of regional economic integration organizations and those for particular industrial sectors are formulating rules and standards for international trade, the Division will be required to monitor and analyse their work so as to assist the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to carry out its mandate to coordinate legal activities in the area of international trade, in particular to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law.

6.29 Users of texts originating from the work of the Commission will be provided with information on the judicial and arbitral application and interpretation of those texts. Such information will be made available in all the official languages of the United Nations in the form of abstracts of court decisions and arbitral awards. In

addition, the Division will facilitate the use of uniform law by preparing and continuously updating a digest of case law interpreting the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods and the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration, as well as disseminating information on the implementation of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards.

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate wider awareness of international treaties concluded under the auspices of the United Nations, treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and treaties registered with the Secretariat under Article 102 of the Charter, and actions relating to those treaties.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved access to international treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and related treaty actions, including information on their status, and to treaties and related actions submitted for registration and publication with the Secretariat	(a) (i) The timely provision of substantive and procedural depositary-related advice and guidance on treaties to be deposited with the Secretary-General (ii) The timely processing of treaty actions and formalities relating to treaties deposited with the Secretary-General (iii) The timely processing of treaties and actions submitted for registration and publication (iv) Increased number of page views on the Treaty Section's website
(b) Promotion of broader State participation in the multilateral treaty framework	(b) (i) Increased number of treaty actions (e.g. ratifications and accessions) received for deposit with the Secretary-General (ii) Increased participation by Member States in the international treaty framework
(c) Enhanced familiarity with and understanding by Member States of the technical and legal aspects of participating in the multilateral treaty framework and registering treaties with the Secretariat	(c) (i) Increased number of treaty actions submitted for deposit in the proper format

	(ii) Increased number of treaties and actions submitted for registration and publication in the proper form, pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter
(d) Increased respect for the international treaty framework	(d) (i) Increased requests for depositary and registration-related information and advice from States, other United Nations offices, specialized agencies and treaty bodies
	(ii) Increased number of participants in training seminars or ad hoc training sessions provided by the Treaty Section at Headquarters and in the regions

Strategy

6.30 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of the subprogramme is vested in the Treaty Section.

6.31 The Section will undertake the depositary functions of the Secretary-General for over 500 multilateral treaties and the registration and publication functions relating to over 55,000 treaties and over 110,000 related actions pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations; provide timely and accurate information relating to the treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and treaties and related actions registered with the Secretariat; provide assistance and advice to Member States, specialized agencies, United Nations offices, treaty bodies and other entities on various aspects of treaty law, including final clauses of treaties, the depositary practice of the Secretary-General and the registration of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter; and prepare and revise related publications.

6.32 The Treaty Section will continue to diversify its computerization programme to respond most effectively to the needs of Member States, in particular with respect to (a) the comprehensive electronic database containing up-to-date depositary and registration information, (b) electronic dissemination of treaty and treaty law-related information from the database, including through online access and (c) enhancement of the electronic database/workflow system, including desktop publishing capabilities, and will continue to update and enhance the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Internet.

6.33 The Section will continue to promote wider participation in the multilateral treaty framework through regular treaty events and provide assistance to States with the technical and legal aspects of participation in treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and the registration of treaties pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter, including through capacity-building training seminars held at Headquarters in New York and in the regions.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1
Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services to the United Nations as a whole

General Assembly resolutions

13 (I)	Organization of the Secretariat
2819 (XXVI)	Security of missions accredited to the United Nations and safety of their personnel and establishment of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Subprogramme 2
General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes

General Assembly resolutions

351 A (IV)	Establishment of a United Nations Administrative Tribunal
782 B (VIII)	Personnel policy of the United Nations: amendment to the statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal
957 (X)	Procedure for review of United Nations Administrative Tribunal judgements: amendments to the statute of the Administrative Tribunal
50/54	Review of the procedure provided for under article 11 of the statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal
52/166	Amendment to article 13 of the statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal
55/159	Review of the statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

General Assembly resolutions and decisions

174 (II)	Establishment of an International Law Commission
487 (V)	Ways and means for making the evidence of customary international law more readily available
987 (X)	Publication of the documents of the International Law Commission
3006 (XXVII)	*United Nations Juridical Yearbook*
59/36	Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

59/37	Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives
60/19	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law
60/22	Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-seventh session
60/23	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions]
60/23	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
60/29	Report of the International Criminal Court
60/43	Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Articles 16 (2), 47 (9), 75 (2), 76 (9), 84 (2), 287 (8), 298 (6), 312, 313 (1), 319 (1) and 319 (2); articles 2 (2), 2 (5) and 6 (3) of annex II; articles 2 and 3 (e) of annex V; article 4 (4) of annex VI; article 2 (1) of annex VII; and article 3 (e) of annex VIII

General Assembly resolutions

49/28	Law of the Sea
52/26	Oceans and the law of the sea
54/33	Results of the review by the Commission on Sustainable Development of the sectoral theme of "Oceans and seas": international coordination and cooperation
56/13	Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks [establishment of informal consultations of parties to the Fish Stocks Agreement]
57/141	Oceans and the law of the sea

58/14	Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments
58/240	Oceans and the law of the sea
59/24	Oceans and the law of the sea
59/25	Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments
60/30	Oceans and the law of the sea
60/31	Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade

General Assembly resolutions

2205 (XXI)	Establishment of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
60/20	Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-eighth session

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

23 (I)	Registration of treaties and international agreements
24 (I)	Transfer of certain functions, activities and assets of the League of Nations
97 (I)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements: Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations
364 (IV)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements

482 (V)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements
33/141	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations
51/158	Electronic treaty database
54/28	United Nations Decade of International Law
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
56/77	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

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Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

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Overall orientation

7.1 The overall objective of the programme is to promote sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development for all. The programme also seeks to contribute to a mutually reinforcing relationship between the development work of the United Nations and the other core elements of the United Nations wider work for its Member States and their peoples, on peace and security and human rights.

7.2 The programme is under the responsibility of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Its key programmatic thrusts are (a) to provide substantive support to the United Nations Charter bodies dealing with development issues, namely, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its related functional commissions, and expert bodies and (b) to analyse development prospects globally.

7.3 The programme takes an integrated approach, tackling the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development through normative, analytical and operational work. It applies that approach to the intergovernmental process as a whole, through which work on development issues takes place in five consecutive phases: (a) promoting understanding of common challenges; (b) building policy consensus on guiding principles and solutions; (c) forging international commitments and agreements, including specific courses of action; (d) facilitating implementation of commitments/translating agreements into action at the global, regional, national and local levels; (e) monitoring and evaluating progress and obstacles to progress.

7.4 New impetus for the programme has been provided by the 2005 World Summit, creating challenges and opportunities that will continue to shape its operating environment and priorities in the biennium 2008-2009. In this respect, the following three major aspects of the 2005 World Summit Outcome will underline the operating framework for the biennium: (a) an intensified focus on both implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, generated by the United Nations conferences and summits, which together make up the United Nations development agenda, and realizing the global partnership for development, which was strongly reaffirmed at the 2005 World Summit and set out in the Millennium Declaration, Monterrey Consensus and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation; (b) a determination to foster a more coherent and effective United Nations, through better integration of economic, social and environmental policies at all levels, stronger links between normative, analytical and operational work, and better management of United Nations entities dealing at the country level with development, the environment and humanitarian assistance; and (c) a commitment to pursue greater engagement with other partners and institutional stakeholders, including the multilateral financial, trade and development institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector.

7.5 The programme will continue to emphasize the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into all policies and programmes, which the 2005 World Summit recognized as an essential contribution to achieving gender equality and the internationally agreed development goals. The programme has played a leading role in fulfilling the Organization's responsibility to provide advice and support on this front.

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7.6 The 2005 World Summit decisions on reform of the Economic and Social Council system in particular have put the Council, and thus the programme, at the centre of the effort to monitor and advance unified and coherent implementation of the United Nations development agenda. The Council's new functions include: (a) conducting annual ministerial reviews of progress towards agreed development goals; (b) convening the global Development Cooperation Forum; (c) building the Council's capacity to respond rapidly to trends or emergencies that may threaten development progress; (d) reconceiving its role in fostering global policy dialogue; and (e) playing a major role in overall coordination of United Nations system funds, programmes and agencies.

7.7 Providing effective support to these functions will require strategic integration, as well as strengthened coordination and coherence, both within the programme and within the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs. It will also require strengthening productive interfaces between the programme and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and between the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Development Group.

Subprogramme 1
Economic and Social Council support and coordination

Objective of the Organization: to advance the role of the General Assembly, especially the Second and the Third Committees, and the Economic and Social Council in supporting efforts to promote a more coherent and integrated implementation of the United Nations development agenda, comprised of the international development goals agreed upon at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in policy development, coordination and coherence to facilitate and monitor progress in implementing the internationally agreed development goals and in strengthening the linkage between policy and operational activities for development	(a) (i) Increased number of resolutions, agreed conclusions and ministerial declarations and presidential summaries reflecting consensus on major development issues (ii) Increased number of more action-oriented recommendations (iii) Increased number of country-level development plans reflecting the policy consensus
(b) Enhanced role of the Economic and Social Council in guiding its subsidiary bodies and in promoting coordination and coherence in the activities of the United Nations system	(b) (i) Increased number of similar items appearing on the agendas and work programmes of the functional commissions as compared to the agenda of the Economic and Social Council (ii) The number of actions taken by subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to better coordinate their response to policy documents of the Council

	(iii) Increased contribution to the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council
(c) Enhanced role of the Economic and Social Council in the area of post-conflict reconstruction and development, including its enhanced interaction with the Security Council as mandated by the Economic and Social Council	(c) Increased number of recommendations and decisions of the Economic and Social Council on long-term development situations of post-conflict countries as well as its advice to the Peacebuilding Commission

Strategy

7.8 The Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Strengthening the role of the Economic and Social Council through its annual ministerial-level substantive reviews to monitor progress in implementing the international development goals agreed upon at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals, to promote policy coherence among the development activities of different development partners and to strengthen the links between the normative and operational work of the United Nations through the Development Cooperation Forum;

(b) Promoting policy dialogue on interrelated economic and social issues through special meetings with the international financial and trade institutions on the coordinated and integrated follow-up to and implementation of the internationally agreed development goals;

(c) Supporting the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations in order to facilitate the contribution of civil society to the work of the Economic and Social Council on the integrated follow-up to the international development goals agreed upon at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals, and supporting non-governmental organizations to build their capacity to participate in the work and activities of the United Nations;

(d) Promoting a comprehensive and integrated approach to the follow-up to and implementation of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular by utilizing a more coherent and integrated approach to social, economic, financial, environmental and development issues;

(e) Assisting the Economic and Social Council in its work, in cooperation with the General Assembly and the Security Council, on issues of post-conflict peacebuilding in countries emerging from conflict, as mandated by the Economic and Social Council, and in developing strategy to address the development dimension of post-conflict situations, drawing on the advice of the Peacebuilding Commission.

Subprogramme 2
Gender issues and advancement of women

Objective of the Organization: to strengthen the achievement of gender equality and the advancement of women, including women's full enjoyment of their human rights

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Advancements in gender equality and elimination of gender discrimination through support and promotion of the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the 2005 World Summit and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	(a) (i) Increased number of policies and actions taken at the national and regional levels to implement the Beijing Platform for Action, the outcome of the twenty-third special session, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the 2005 World Summit (ii) Increased proportion of resolutions of the General Assembly that incorporate a gender perspective
(b) Enhanced capacity of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to fulfil their mandates, including the promotion of gender mainstreaming in all political, economic and social spheres	(b) (i) The reduction in the current interval between the date of receipt of a State party's report and the date of its consideration by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (ii) Increased number of representatives of non-governmental organizations that participate in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women
(c) Increased capacity of the United Nations system entities to mainstream gender perspectives and to undertake targeted measures to empower women in policies and programmes of the United Nations system	(c) (i) Increased number of actions taken by United Nations entities, individually and/or collaboratively, to incorporate gender perspectives in their policies, programmes and projects (ii) Improved gender balance through effective implementation of gender-sensitive human resources policy measures by the United Nations system entities

Strategy

7.9 The Office of the Special Adviser on Women and Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Division for the Advancement of Women are responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Promoting commitments and actions of Member States and intergovernmental bodies for the full and effective implementation of mandates

relating to gender equality, especially those emanating from the 2005 World Summit, the Millennium Declaration, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and other resolutions and decisions, such as Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1997/2 and Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), as well as obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(b) Promoting understanding of emerging issues on gender equality and the advancement of women, through research, analysis and provision of evidence-based policy options, and monitoring of gender mainstreaming in intergovernmental process outcomes;

(c) Enhancing effective functioning of intergovernmental and expert bodies, including the work of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, through research and analysis, improving, rationalizing and streamlining existing methods of work and facilitating the involvement of the civil society in intergovernmental processes;

(d) Providing technical advisory services, upon request, at the regional and national levels, through capacity-building in relation to implementation and reporting under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol;

(e) Promoting gender mainstreaming in all policies and programmes and the improvement of the status of women within the United Nations system, including by facilitating inter-agency collaboration, monitoring the development of policies, methodologies and tools, and promoting and monitoring the achievement of gender balance and a gender-sensitive work environment within the United Nations system.

Subprogramme 3
Social policy and development

Objective of the Organization: to strengthen international cooperation, raise awareness on the importance of social development and enhance national capacity with particular attention to poverty eradication, employment generation and social inclusion, especially with due regard to issues relating to older persons, persons with disabilities, family, youth and indigenous peoples

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) International debate and agreements facilitated on major social development issues on the agendas of the United Nations intergovernmental processes	(a) (i) the percentage of proposed recommendations used in the formulation of resolutions, decisions and agreed conclusions
	(ii) Increased number of programmes in the United Nations system devoted to social development issues
(b) Strengthened capacity of Member States and of civil society to develop and implement social programmes and policies	(b) (i) Increased number of national personnel trained to implement social policies at the national and community levels

		(ii) Increased number of social policy measures taken by countries to promote poverty eradication, employment generation, social protection, social spending and social integration
(c) Better understanding and awareness by Governments, civil society and the private sector of issues of social development	(c)	(i) Improved and timely access to United Nations research and analysis information
		(ii) Increased number of multi-stakeholder events on issues relating to social development

Strategy

7.10 The Division for Social Policy and Development is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Promoting greater awareness of and supporting the integrated follow-up to and the implementation, within the overall orientation provided by the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, of the commitments agreed upon at relevant United Nations conferences and summits, especially the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the mandates and recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the major international action plans, in particular the International Plan of Action on Ageing, as well as other programmes of action, notably on persons with disabilities and youth, and mandates contained in General Assembly resolutions, such as those related to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, with emphasis on greater integration of social and economic concerns and objectives in policymaking;

(b) Advocating and promoting understanding of and support for emerging issues in social development through research, analysis and reporting on policy options in close collaboration and coordination with other United Nations entities to achieve social development in order to present evidence-based policy recommendations to Member States;

(c) Providing technical advisory services at the regional and national levels through training and capacity-building;

(d) Raising civil society awareness and facilitating civil society support for the work of the United Nations on social development.

Subprogramme 4
Sustainable development

Objective of the Organization: to accelerate the implementation of sustainable development goals, targets and commitments in accordance with internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective review of and agreement on key sustainable development challenges and priority actions of the multi-year programme of work to advance implementation in the areas of agriculture, rural development, drought, desertification and Africa, including related cross-cutting issues	(a) Increased level of satisfaction by Member States with the support and servicing for the intergovernmental process, including activities related to consensus-building, the functioning of the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the partnership fair, the Learning Centre and the participation of major groups
(b) Increased availability of information on policy options, practical measures and concrete actions needed for the adoption and implementation of sustainable development at the local, national, regional and international levels	(b) (i) Increased number of inputs by Member States into databases on case studies, partnerships, best practices and lessons learned (ii) Increased number of visits to and downloads from the website of the Division for Sustainable Development
(c) Enhanced technical, human and institutional capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement actions and national strategies for sustainable development in energy, water and natural resources	(c) (i) Increased number of countries expressing satisfaction with advisory, technical cooperation and capacity-building services to achieve their sustainable development goals (ii) Increased number of national staff trained, resulting in enhanced knowledge and skills

Strategy

7.11 The Division for Sustainable Development is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Promoting and supporting effective, coherent and coordinated implementation of the sustainable development agenda of the United Nations, including Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, at the national, regional and global levels, with an emphasis on greater integration of social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development through, inter alia, national sustainable development strategies;

(b) Providing substantive and effective support, including policy development and analysis, to intergovernmental processes, in particular to the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(c) Providing technical and policy advisory services, at the request of Member States, to enhance their capacity to implement actions and strategies to manage water and energy resources as well as national sustainable development strategies, and to implement effective information, monitoring, review, and reporting systems at the national and regional levels;

(d) Strengthening cooperation with major groups and identifying opportunities for their further engagement in the work of the United Nations in the area of sustainable development;

(e) Undertaking in-depth analysis and evaluation of trends in the implementation of sustainable development, including lessons learned, best practices and new challenges, and cross-sectoral analysis of sustainable development in the economic and natural resources sectors;

(f) Maintaining and improving transparent, user-friendly and easily accessible websites, including database systems for information on sustainable development;

(g) Providing information and summary reports on partnerships for sustainable development to the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Subprogramme 5
Statistics

Objective of the Organization: to advance the global statistical system in order to produce high quality, easily accessible comparable national statistics for policymakers and other users at the national and international levels

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened global statistical system, with more active participation by countries and increased collaboration among international organizations, including progress in the harmonization and rationalization of development indicators	(a) (i) Increased number of participants from countries and international organizations attending the sessions of the Statistical Commission, workshops, expert group meetings and seminars (ii) Increased number of collaborative activities carried out with international organizations on the rationalization and harmonization of development indicators
(b) Better and broader use by Governments, international organizations, research institutes, the private sector and the general public of statistical data and technical guidelines produced by the subprogramme	(b) (i) Increased percentage of requests satisfied for statistical data (ii) Increased percentage of visits to the Statistics Division website

(c) Strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to routinely collect, compile, store, analyse and disseminate official statistics and indicators in the economic, social, demographic and environmental fields to produce quality data for policymakers and the public in general	(c) Increased percentage of participants that utilized knowledge obtained at training workshops

Strategy

7.12 The subprogramme is under responsibility of the Statistics Division, which is the centre of the United Nations global statistical system that includes national statistical offices, international organizations and civil society engaging in official statistics, under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission. The strategy will include:

(a) Expanding the normative role of the subprogramme in the development and enhancement of statistical standards, the collection and depositing of statistical data by Member States and the coordination of international statistical activities;

(b) Helping countries, through the development of guidelines, to build and manage sustainable national statistical systems with appropriate governance structures and development guidelines, to utilize state-of-the-art data capture and processing technologies and to enhance the quality of and accessibility to policy-relevant statistical information;

(c) Developing norms and standards, in particular developing statistical concepts, definitions, classifications and methods for the collection, compilation, storage, analysis and dissemination of statistics and indicators for use by statistical authorities at the national level;

(d) Compiling and disseminating global statistical information in the areas of national accounts, international trade, energy, industry, demographic and social concerns and the environment, increasingly using modern information and communication technologies, including the Internet, to facilitate data exchange and to enhance accessibility to comparable national statistics in those fields by policymakers and other users at the national and international levels;

(e) Strengthening of countries' national statistical systems, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, by disseminating methodological information to those countries, conducting training, stimulating their participation in the international exchange of experiences and providing other appropriate forms of technical cooperation, including technical advisory services on request, and promoting the use of mapping and geographical information systems for modern surveying at the national, regional and local levels;

(f) Coordinating international statistical activities by cooperating closely with other international organizations active in statistics to further enhance the coordinated system of international statistical work, including data-sharing by testing and utilizing new Internet and information management technologies.

Subprogramme 6
Population

Objective of the Organization: to enable the international community to better understand and effectively address current and foreseeable population issues and population dimensions of development at the national and international levels

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effectively facilitated review by Member States of progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly	(a) Improved quality of support and servicing for the Commission on Population and Development, including the provision of timely, relevant, technically sound and policy-oriented documentation for its work
(b) Enhanced awareness of new and emerging population issues and increased knowledge and understanding, at the national level, particularly in the areas of fertility, mortality, migration, HIV/AIDS, urbanization, population growth and population ageing	(b) Increased influence of the work of the Population Division on the work of other stakeholders in the area of population
(c) Improved accessibility and timeliness of population information and data for use by Member States, civil society and academia	(c) Increased demand for population publications or digital information products

Strategy

7.13 The Population Division is responsible for the subprogramme. The objective will be achieved by:

(a) Providing substantive support to United Nations bodies, especially to the Commission on Population and Development, and assessing progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;

(b) Facilitating the discussion of key or emerging population issues by experts or government representatives;

(c) Preparing comprehensive studies on population issues and population trends relating to fertility, mortality, international and internal migration, HIV/AIDS, urbanization, population growth, population ageing, population prospects, population policy and population in relation to development;

(d) Disseminating population information and policy-relevant findings in the area of population, in particular through the Population Division website;

(e) Building capacity to address population issues at the national level through workshops or the dissemination of technical material, such as manuals and software.

Subprogramme 7
Development policy and analysis

Objective of the Organization: to identify and reach intergovernmental agreement on the economic policies and actions necessary at the national and international levels to improve long-term development prospects

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened international debate by assisting the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in identifying and understanding new and emerging economic issues, in particular in the context of advancing the internationally agreed development goals agreed upon at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals	(a) Increased number of debated economic policies and actions to achieve development goals on which agreements were reached
(b) Improved dialogue on the world economic situation, including fostering a unified United Nations view on the world economic outlook and its implications for the prospects of developing countries	(b) Increased inputs from the United Nations system entities and Member States to the dialogue on the world economic situation and prospects
(c) Strengthened capacity of developing countries to integrate macroeconomic and social policies in national development strategies, including through better understanding of mechanisms to cope with economic insecurity and to make macroeconomic stabilization compatible with long-term poverty reduction	(c) Increased number of developing countries that developed proposals and plans on the integration of macroeconomic and social policies into national development strategies

Strategy

7.14 The Development Policy and Analysis Division is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will focus on:

(a) Analysis of emerging economic issues for the United Nations Development Agenda and actions to promote development in developing countries, especially those that face the greatest difficulties in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, with emphasis on greater integration of social and economic concerns and objectives in policymaking, and in close collaboration and coordination with other United Nations system entities. Substantive and effective support to the work of the Committee for Development Policy will be provided;

(b) Unified United Nations perspective on the short-term global macroeconomic situation and prospects, as well as on timely and accurate assessments of the benefits of coordinated international macroeconomic policies;

(c) Substantive interaction with development institutions, including academic and research bodies;

(d) Expanded dissemination of the *World Economic and Social Survey* and *World Economic Situation and Prospects* among research, academic and other development institutions, as well as policymakers in Member States;

(e) Assistance to the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly with information on countries' economic structures, performance, prospects and related issues in their review of conflict and post-conflict situations;

(f) Assistance to developing countries with analytical tools aimed at strengthening their capacity to define national development strategies towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, especially in the areas of linking macroeconomic policies to poverty reduction targets and coping with economic vulnerability and insecurity.

Subprogramme 8
Public administration and development management

Objective of the Organization: to promote progress on key cross-cutting issues of governance and public administration in ways that help Member States advance the integrated and effective implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enriched dialogue on improved understanding of the cross-cutting issues of public sector reform, participatory governance, capacity-building and promotion of professionalism and ethics, and knowledge management for development	(a) Increased number of references, recommendations and decisions aimed at facilitating intergovernmental dialogue on the cross-cutting issues in the area of public administration found in reports, declarations and resolutions
(b) Enhanced knowledge and improved exchange of innovations and good practices in the area of public sector reform, participatory governance and knowledge management for development	(b) Increased number of visits to and downloads from the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance
(c) Enhanced capacity of national Governments to strengthen participatory governance, professionalism and accountability in the public sector for improved performance, including through the use of information and communication technologies	(c) The number of methodological and technical recommendations implemented by Member States as a result of advisory services and technical cooperation projects

Strategy

7.15 The Division for Public Administration and Development Management is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy is based on an integrated approach comprising advocacy, the provision of substantive support to relevant intergovernmental bodies, analytical work, advisory services, technical cooperation

and training, the dissemination of best practices and experiences, information-sharing and network-building. It is aimed at:

(a) Promoting greater awareness, common approaches, understanding and innovative policy options among Member States in the following four substantive areas: post-conflict reconstruction of governance and public administration systems; participatory governance; capacity-building and promotion of professionalism and ethics in the public sector; and information and communication technology for development;

(b) Focusing also on the themes associated with the four substantive areas, including public sector leadership, judicial and legislative administration and institutional capacity-building for agencies involved in regulatory reforms, budgeting, revenue administration, the administration of incentives and development assistance management;

(c) Devoting special attention to countries emerging from conflict or crisis;

(d) Strengthening cooperation and collaboration of regional and professional organizations within and outside the United Nations system to maximize the impact of their respective activities.

Subprogramme 9
Sustainable forest management

Objective of the Organization: to advance long-term political commitment to the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests at the global, regional and national levels and to promote the achievement of the internationally shared global objectives on forests

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective international dialogue on sustainable forest management and facilitation of the adoption and implementation of the non-legally binding instrument	(a) Increased number of resolutions and decisions on improvement of sustainable forest management at all levels
(b) Enhanced monitoring, assessment of and reporting on internationally agreed actions towards the implementation of sustainable forest management	(b) (i) Increased number of reports on sustainable forest management submitted by countries and other stakeholders (ii) Increased number of assessments based on the information provided by Member States and other stakeholders on the progress made and impediments encountered in the implementation of the internationally agreed actions for sustainable forest management

(c) Improved international cooperation, collaboration and coordination on forests through more effective and better knowledge management among Governments, major groups, organizations, instruments and processes, including the activities of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests	(c) Increased number of partnerships, collaborative activities and country and organization-led initiatives undertaken to support the international forest policy dialogue

Strategy

7.16 The secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Supporting efforts to achieve the internationally shared global objectives on forests, including: reversal of loss of forest cover; enhancement of forest-based economic, social and environment benefits; significant increase of the area of sustainably managed forests; and reversal of the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management in particular through effective implementation of a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests;

(b) Promoting greater awareness of and supporting the implementation of forest-related elements of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992, as well as those stemming from the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests processes and the United Nations Forum on Forests;

(c) Facilitating the adoption and implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests;

(d) Providing substantive support for continued policy development, dialogue and agreements among Governments, international organizations and other interested parties, including major groups;

(e) Providing support to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests for enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination on forest-related issues among relevant international and regional organizations, institutions and instruments;

(f) Facilitating, monitoring, assessing and reporting on the progress of national, regional and global actions in sustainable forest development, as well as undertaking research on and analysis and dissemination of that data and information, including through the United Nations Forum on Forests website;

(g) Contributing to strengthened international cooperation by catalysing financial resources and fostering North-South and public-private partnerships in sustainable forest management;

(h) Providing substantive support for the mobilization and exchange of technical and scientific knowledge and information, through the provision of technical advisory services, upon request, and conducting training courses;

(i) Encouraging and assisting countries, at their request, including those with low forest cover, to develop and implement forest conservation and rehabilitation strategies, increase the area of forests under sustainable management

and reduce forest degradation and the loss of forest cover, in order to maintain and improve their forest resources with a view to enhancing the benefits of forests to meet present and future needs, in particular the needs of indigenous peoples and local communities, whose livelihoods depend on forests.

Subprogramme 10
Financing for development

Objective of the Organization: to promote and support sustained follow-up to the agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development, as contained in the Monterrey Consensus, as well as financing for development-related aspects of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, including the development goals set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective multi-stakeholder monitoring of the implementation of and follow-up to the Monterrey Consensus and related outcomes	(a) Increased number of contributions from all the stakeholders in the financing for development process to the annual analytical assessment of the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and related outcomes
(b) Strengthened role and fuller use of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the relevant intergovernmental and governing bodies of other institutional stakeholders, for the purposes of conference follow-up and coordination	(b) Increased number and scope of agreements reached and commitments made by Member States as a result of intergovernmental deliberations in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as in the relevant intergovernmental and governing bodies of other institutional stakeholders, for the purposes of conference follow-up and coordination
(c) Fuller engagement of Governments and greater cooperation and interaction among all institutional and non-institutional stakeholders involved in the financing for development process to ensure proper follow-up to the implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the Conference	(c) Increased number and impact of multi-stakeholder consultations, workshops, seminars and other events on financing for development, including the international and regional financial and trade institutions, as well as the relevant entities of civil society and the private sector

Strategy

7.17 The Financing for Development Office is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Serving as a focal point in the United Nations Secretariat for overall follow-up to the implementation, at the national, regional and global levels, of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development and, in this context, intensifying collaboration and interaction with the secretariats of the major

institutional stakeholders, the regional commissions and development banks, as well as civil society and the business sector;

(b) Promoting coherence and an integrated approach within the United Nations to issues related to financing for development, for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, including the development goals set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome;

(c) Providing substantive secretariat support, including the preparation of multi-stakeholder reports and other inputs, to the intergovernmental process entrusted with the follow-up to the Conference and the World Summit, as well as other relevant bodies, in particular with respect to the area of coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development, including by contributing to relevant aspects of the work of the Economic and Social Council Development Cooperation Forum and preparing a follow-up conference on financing for development;

(d) Organizing, in collaboration with experts from the public and private sectors, academia and civil society, multi-stakeholder consultations, workshops, panel discussions and other activities aimed at better enabling Member States to implement their commitments as agreed upon in the Monterrey Consensus and related outcomes.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

47/190	Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (subprogrammes 4, 5, 6 and 7)
47/191	Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (subprogrammes 4, 5 and 6)
50/227	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (subprogrammes 1 and 7)
51/176	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (subprogrammes 5 and 6)
51/240	Agenda for Development (all subprogrammes)
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration (all subprogrammes)
55/279	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (all subprogrammes)
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (all subprogrammes)

57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development (all subprogrammes)
57/270 B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields (all subprogrammes)
58/218	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (subprogrammes 2, 4, 5, 6 and 9)
58/220	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8)
58/225	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (subprogrammes 1 and 7)
58/269	Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change (all subprogrammes)
59/146	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (subprogrammes 3, 5 and 6)
59/243	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy (subprogrammes 7 and 8)
59/250	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 8)
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome (all subprogrammes)
60/140	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (all subprogrammes)

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

1998/7	Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (subprogrammes 5 and 6)
2005/31	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system (all subprogrammes)
2005/48	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (all subprogrammes)

Ministerial communiqués of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

2002	The contribution of human resources development, including in the areas of health and education, to the process of development (all subprogrammes)
2003	Promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development (all subprogrammes)
2004	Resources mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (all subprogrammes)

Subprogramme 1
Economic and Social Council support and coordination

General Assembly resolutions

45/264	Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
48/162	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
48/209	Operational activities for development: field offices of the United Nations development system
52/12 B	Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform
57/295	Information and communication technologies for development
58/126	Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly
60/124	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
60/180	The Peacebuilding Commission
60/252	World Summit on the Information Society

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

1986/72	Protection against products harmful to health and the environment
1996/31	Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations
1999/5	Poverty eradication and capacity-building
1999/6	Progress on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/192

1999/51	Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions
2000/19	Funding operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2000/20	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/192 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2001/27	Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B: improving the working methods of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council
2001/210	Establishment of the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force
2002/225	Establishment of the general voluntary trust fund in support of the United Nations NGO Informal Regional Network
2004/44	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits
2005/7	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/250 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2005/221	Theme for the coordination segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council and multi-year work programme for the coordination segment and documents considered under the item

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

1995/1	Coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
1997/1	Fostering an enabling environment for development: financial flows, including capital flows, investment and trade
2000/2	Assessment of the progress made within the United Nations system, through the conference reviews, in the promotion of an integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

2001/1 Role of the United Nations in promoting development, particularly with respect to access to and transfer of knowledge and technology, especially information and communication technologies, inter alia, through partnerships with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector

2002/1 Strengthening further the Economic and Social Council, building on its recent achievements, to help it fulfil the role ascribed to it in the Charter of the United Nations as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (all subprogrammes)

Ministerial communiqués of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

1998 Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization

1999 The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women

2000 Development and international cooperation in the twenty-first century: the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge-based global economy

2001 The role of the United Nations system in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development

Subprogramme 2
Gender issues and advancement of women

General Assembly resolutions

34/180 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

54/4 Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

54/134 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

59/164 Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system

59/165 Working towards the elimination of crimes against women and girls committed in the name of honour

59/166 Trafficking in women and girls

59/167 Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

60/136	In-depth study on all forms of violence against women
60/138	Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas
60/139	Violence against women migrant workers
60/210	Women in development
60/230	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

76 (V)	Communications concerning the status of women
304 (XI)	Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (fourth session)
1992/19	Communications on the status of women
1996/6	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women
1998/26	Advancement of women: implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development
1999/257	Enabling the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to carry out its mandate
2004/4	Review of Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2005/43	Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women
2005/232	Declaration of the Commission on the Status of Women on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

1997/2	Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Security Council resolutions

1325 (2000)	Women, peace and security

Subprogramme 3
Social policy and development

General Assembly resolutions

47/90	The role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends
47/196	Observance of an international day for the eradication of poverty
50/81	World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond
50/107	Observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
50/144	Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond
50/161	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
S-24/2	Further initiatives for social development
57/165	Promoting youth employment
57/167	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
58/134	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
59/174	Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
59/246	Role of microcredit and microfinance in the eradication of poverty
60/2	Policies and programmes involving youth
60/130	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
60/131	Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities
60/132	Cooperatives in social development
60/133	Follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond
60/135	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
60/209	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

60/232 Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1996/7 Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the future role of the Commission for Social Development

2000/22 Establishment of a Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

2001/7 Proposals for a multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development for 2002-2006

2001/42 Global campaign for poverty eradication

2005/9 Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights

2005/11 Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

1996/1 Coordination of the United Nations system activities for poverty eradication

Subprogramme 4
Sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

S-19/2 Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

S-22/2 Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

57/262 Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

58/217 International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015

59/228 Activities undertaken during the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, preparations for the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources

59/229 Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

60/193 Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

60/194 Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

60/199 Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2003/61 Future programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Subprogramme 5
Statistics

General Assembly resolutions

57/270 B Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields (paragraphs 31 and 50)

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

1564 (L) Principles and recommendations for a vital statistics system

1566 (L) Coordination of work in the field of statistics

1989/3 International economic classifications

1993/5 1993 System of National Accounts

1995/61 The need to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

2000/27 Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels

2003/294 Recommendations made by the Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

2004/304 Recommendations made by the Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific

2005/13 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme

2005/231 Recommendations contained in the excerpt from the report of the Eighth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas

Subprogramme 6
Population

General Assembly resolutions

49/128	Report of the International Conference on Population and Development
S-21/2	Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
57/299	Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS
60/227	International migration and development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1994/2	Work programme in the field of population
1995/55	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
1997/2	International migration and development
1997/42	Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development
1999/10	Population growth, structure and distribution

Commission on Population and Development resolutions

1997/2	Reporting requirements to the Commission on Population and Development
1997/3	Work programme in the field of population
1998/1	Health and mortality
2000/1	Population, gender and development
2001/1	Population, environment and development
2003/1	Population, education and development
2004/1	Work programme in the field of population
2004/2	Follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
2005/1	Population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty

2005/2 Contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration

Subprogramme 7
Development policy and analysis

General Assembly resolutions

59/243 Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

60/185 Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1990/52 Role of the United Nations in the early identification, analysis and forecasting of world economic developments

Subprogramme 8
Public administration and development management

General Assembly resolutions

50/225 Public administration and development

52/87 International cooperation against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions

55/61 An effective international legal instrument against corruption

58/13 Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

60/34 Public administration and development

60/211 Human resources development

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

2000/231 Recommendations made by the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance at its fifteenth meeting

2001/45 Restructuring and revitalization of the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance

2005/3 Public administration and development

2005/55 Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its fourth session and dates, venue and provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Committee

Subprogramme 9
Sustainable forest management

General Assembly resolutions

57/270 B Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2000/35 Report on the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests

2005/29 Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifth session and provisional agenda for its sixth session

Subprogramme 10
Financing for development

General Assembly resolutions

56/210 B International Conference on Financing for Development

57/273 Ensuring effective secretariat support for sustained follow-up to the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

60/186 International financial system and development

60/187 External debt crisis and development

60/188 Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2004/64 International Conference on Financing for Development

2004/69 Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

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